

In the claims:

Please cancel claims 1-24 without prejudice and add new claims 25-35 as follows:

*A1
CONT'D
C1*
25. (New) A method for the treatment of insulin dependent (type I) diabetes comprising administering to a prediabetic mammal, or a mammal having partial β cell destruction, a composition comprising a VLA-4 blocking agent, in an amount effective to treat diabetes.

C1
26. (New) A method according to claim 25, wherein the VLA-4 blocking agent is selected from the group consisting of a soluble polypeptide and a small molecule capable of binding to VLA-4

C1
27. (New) A method according to claim 26, wherein the soluble polypeptide is a fibronectin polypeptide.

C2
28. (New) A method according to claim 27, wherein the fibronectin polypeptide comprises an EILDV motif.

C1
29. (New) A method according to claim 26, wherein the small molecule is an oligosaccharide.

C1
30. (New) A method according to claim 25, wherein the VLA-4 blocking agent is a chimeric antibody capable of binding VLA-4.

*Dab
C2*
31. (New) A method according to claim 26, wherein the soluble peptide is a chimeric molecule.

*Dab
C3*
32. (New) A method according to claim 31, wherein the chimeric molecule further comprises a toxin moiety.

C1
33. (New) A method according to claim 25, wherein the mammal is prediabetic.

*A
CONC'D
Dw
C3
Cut*

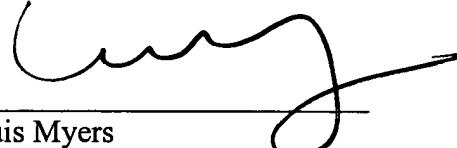
34. (New) A method according to claim 33, wherein the prediabetic mammal is a human.

35. (New) A method according to claim 25, wherein the mammal has partial β cell destruction.

CONCLUSION

In view of the amendments set forth above, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes that a telephone conversation with Applicant's Attorney would be helpful in expediting prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned at (617) 542-5070. We authorize the charging of any additional fees and crediting of any overpayment associated with this communication to our Deposit Account No. 06-1050.

Respectfully submitted,
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